

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of certified copies of the priority documents submitted February 4, 2004.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that the Formal Drawings filed August 21, 2003 are accepted.

Status of the Application

Claims 1-121 are all the claims pending in the Application, as claims 93-121 are hereby added. Only claims 1, 5/1, 6/5/1, 8/1, 10/5/1, 12/1, 14/5/1, 23/1, 25/5/1, 27/8/1, 28/23/1, 30/1, 32/5/1, 34/30/1, 37/30/1, 46/1, 47/46/1, 54, 67/12/1, 69, 70, 77/69, 77/70/69 and 80-84 stand rejected.¹

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 2-4, 5/2, 5/3, 6/5/2, 6/5/3, 7, 8/2, 8/3, 9, 10/5/2, 10/5/3, 11, 12/2, 12/3, 13, 14/5/2, 14/5/3, 15-22, 23/2, 23/3, 24, 25/5/2, 25/5/3, 26, 27/8/2, 27/8/3, 28/23/2, 28/23/3, 29, 30/2, 30/3, 31, 32/5/2, 32/5/3, 33, 34/30/2, 34/30/3, 35, 36, 37/30/2, 37/30/3, 38-45, 46/2, 46/3, 47/46/2, 47/46/3, 48-53, 55-66, 67/12/2, 67/12/3, 68, 71-76, 77/71-76, 78, 79, and 85-92 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.² However,

¹ Although the Examiner indicates that claims 11 and 24 are rejected, these claims are dependent from allowable claims 7 and 4, respectively. Thus, claims 11 and 24 should be indicated as being allowable.

² Although the Examiner has not specifically indicated that claims 6/5/2, 6/5/3, 10/5/2, 10/5/3, 11, 14/5/2, 14/5/3, 24, 25/5/2, 25/5/3, 27/8/2, 27/8/3, 28/23/2, 28/23/3, 32/5/2, 32/5/3, 34/30/2, 34/30/3, 37/30/2, 37/30/3, 47/46/2, 47/46/3, 67/12/2, 67/12/3, and 77/71-76 are allowable, they depend from other claims specifically indicated as being allowable.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner hold in abeyance such rewriting until the Examiner has had an opportunity to reconsider (and withdraw) the prior art rejection of the other claims.

Additionally, Applicants hereby add new independent claims 93, 96, 99, 103, 110, 113, 114, 116, 118, 119 and 121, which correspond to allowable claims 71-74, 76, 78, 85, 87, 89 and 92. Further, Applicants add new dependent claims 94, 95, 97, 98, 100-102, 104-109, 111, 112, 115, 117 and 120, which correspond to various ones of the allowable claims 75, 77, 78, 90, 86, 88 and 92 rewritten to depend from various ones of new independent claims 93, 96, 99, 103, 110, 113, 114, 116, 118, 119 and 121. Applicants respectfully submit that each of these claims 101-129 are immediately allowable.

Anticipation Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 5/1, 6/5/1, 8/1, 10/5/1, 12/1, 14/5/1, 23/1, 25/5/1, 27/8/1, 28/23/1, 30/1, 32/5/1, 34/30/1, 37/30/1, 46/1, 47/46/41, 54, 67/12/1, 69, 70, 77/69, 77/70 and 80-84 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by *Tsay et al.* (US 2003/0024691; hereinafter "*Tsay*").³ This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 1

The Examiner simply takes the position that *Tsay* discloses all of the features of independent claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree, and submit that *Tsay* fails to teach or suggest "a wick plate which is provided between the upper plate and the lower plate and is

³ As discussed above, claims 11 and 24 should not be indicated as being allowable rather than rejected.

maintained in position relative to the lower plate **by surface tension of the liquid-phase coolant,**” (emphasis added) as recited therein.

In contrast to the recited structure, *Tsay* discloses that its division plate 3: (1) has protrusions 31 that are “in contact with the top plate (4);” and (2) contacts a top of guiding layer (2), which in turn contacts the bottom plate (par. 0018). Thus, *Tsay*’s division plate 3 is fixedly held by direct contact with top plate (4) and bottom plate (1), and not by any surface tension of coolant therein.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is patentable over the applied reference. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that rejected dependent claims 5/1, 6/5/1, 8/1, 10/5/1, 12/1, 14/5/1, 23/1, 25/5/1, 27/8/1, 28/23/1, 30/1, 32/5/1, 34/30/1, 37/30/1, 46/1, 47/46/1, 54, and 67/12/1 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Independent Claim 69

Applicants respectfully submit that *Tsay* fails to teach or suggest independent claim 69’s recitation of “mounting the wick plate in a predetermined region of the lower plate,” where “the wick plate is mounted to be positionally maintained relative to the lower plate **by surface tension of the liquid-phase coolant,**” (emphasis added) for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 69 is patentable over the applied references. Further, Applicant respectfully submits that rejected dependent claims 70, 77/69, 77/70/69 and 80-84 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

New Claims

Claims 93-121 are hereby added, as discussed above.

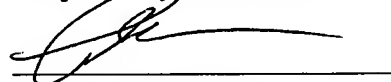
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-121 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-121.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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